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# The role of scalar diversity and question under discussion in deriving implicatures with embedded scales

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## Abstract

Our study extends van Tiel et al.'s (2014) investigation of implicatures with single scalar sentences to sentences which embed 43 scalar items under *some/possible* (*Some meals are adequate*). We explore different implicature types involving the embedded scale in a setting without a QUD (Exp1), and with a QUD (the question *Are some meals good?* employing a strong scalar item under a weak one in Exp 2). We find that implicature rates involving the embedded scale vary with scalar diversity and increase with activating the alternatives through a QUD. Moreover, they can be predicted by the grammatical features in van Tiel.

**Keywords:** implicatures, global implicatures, local implicatures, scales, question under discussion, scalar diversity

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